

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

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R 061502Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2045

INFO AMEMBASY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICAL USE BERLIN 5208

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, US, GE

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL BRITISH ATTENDANCE AT LEIPZIG FAIR.

REF: BERIN 5169

1. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM A BRITISH EMBASSY
POLITICAL OFICER THAT PETER SHAW, SECRETARY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OFTRADE, WILL ATTEND THE LEIPZIG MARCH FAIR
AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.
MR. SHAW IS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND ONLY THE OPENING OF THE
FAIR ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AND 14, SINCE HE
MUST BE BACK IN LONDON ON THE FOLLOWING MONDYA. ACCORD-
ING TO THIS OFFICER, THE ABSOLUTE LEVEL OF BRITISH-GDR
TRADE HAS DECLINED OVER THE PASTY YEAR AND EFFORTS
ARE UNDER WAY ON BOTH SIDES TO IDENTIFY NEW ITEMS FOR
TRADE. MR. SHAW'S VISIT CAN BE SEEN AS
INDICATING OFFICIAL BRITISH INTEREST IN THIS
PRIMARILY COMMERCIAL ENDEAVOR,
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AS WELL AS ADDING OFFICIAL PRESENCE TO THE FAIR.

2. IN CONTRAST TO THE PROPOSED LEIPZIG FAIR VISIT OF FRG ECONOMICS
MINISTER FRIEDRICHS REPORTD REFTEL, MR. SHAW PLANS TO BE PRESENT
DURING THE GDR " STATE AND PARTY" WALKTHROUGH OF THE FAIR SPECIFICALLY

IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO MEET EAST GERMAN LEADERS AT THAT TIME. THE
BRITISH GOVERNEMTN CONTINUES TO BE RELUCTANT TO COMMIT MINISTERS
TO ATTEND THE LEIPZIG FAIR, ACCORDING TO OUR COLLEAGUE.GROVE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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